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PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1890.

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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

IT cannot have failed to impress itself upon the mind of the public, and of the officials of the Treasury at Washington as well, that one of the most powerful and most flexible agencies in our present system of finance is that which is found in the associated banks of the chief cities. The issue of the Clearing-House certificates in New York, Philadelphia, and Boston has been the most conspicuous, as it has been, likewise, the most effective means of relieving the extreme stringency in money, and of affording a legitimate and conservative accommodation of the needs of business. It is an instructive object lesson to students of the financial situation, and it enforces most effectively the presentation of the fact that the Clearing-House Associations are the natural agencies for the Government to employ as the depositories of its funds. Their intimate connection with the business operations of the country, on the one hand, and their close relation to the Government and entire responsibility to it, on the other, furnish the exact conditions which are needed in such depositories.

While it is true that the cash balance of the Government has been diminished, it still is true that its amount is very large,—large enough to be an important factor in the financial operations of the country, in "tight times," and there can be no doubt that if it were in touch with the natural currents of business, it would exercise an important influence on the side of sustaining the credit of the country. Every million of dollars withdrawn from business, and hoarded, is so much aid to the power of constriction and destruction.

It is among the varied misfortunes of the Republican party that several of its important newspapers are in the hands of men who have very scanty faith in the party's principles. The *Chicago Tribune* and the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* are papers of this kind. Their belief in the Protective policy is hardly skin-deep—is in fact a kind of eruption which breaks out when an election is on hand, to disappear at once when the returns are in. This year it has disappeared very quickly, and these newspapers are suggesting a revision and reduction of the duties in the new Tariff law by way of propitiating the popular sentiment which showed itself in the defeat of the Republican party. We see no wisdom in any such proposal, and we are glad to find that the general tone of the leaders and the newspapers of the party is decidedly averse to it. Such hostility to the new Tariff as did affect the result was in large part evoked by misrepresentation, which would have been employed with equal effect against any Tariff revision other than a direct reduction of duties. And that hostility will not be removed by patching or modifying the system. It will become harmless when the actual working of the law during the next two years has satisfied the people that the measure is a good one, and that the clamor against it was partly speculative and partly dishonest.

Nor is it true that the losses of the Republican party have been due chiefly to feeling against the Tariff. The head of the Farmers' Alliance warns the Democracy against the assumption that theirs is a party for "low prices." On the contrary, he says, they want higher prices for themselves and for everybody else; and it is reasonable to suppose they understand how much harder it would be for them to pay off their farm mortgages under Free Trade prices for everything.

A CURIOUS circumstance appears abroad, which may have some influence on politics in the United States. Some copies of the McKinley bill have found their way to England, and upon being read there are found to be quite different from the representa-

tions which had been made in the American Free Trade press,—so much so, indeed, that the English tradesmen admit unhesitatingly that they were grossly deceived. The *Financial Times* of London says with that sort of frankness which it has become a fashion to call "brutal," that it is now evident that the "excessive unpopularity" of the measure, in England, "was largely due to exaggeration on the part of the American Democrats, who have spared no expense or misrepresentation in raising opposition to the scheme."

If it should appear, then, that the English business interests are not so dissatisfied, after all, with the McKinley Tariff, will not our American Free Trade journals be more willing to let it remain the law of the land? Think it over, gentlemen, and consider whether you must insist on its repeal, when England is finding it not at all intolerable?

FROM many quarters we hear the demand that Congress shall pass the Frye Shipping bills at the short session. These lie on the table of the House, and their passage is demanded by the pledges given by the party, and is necessary to complete the Protectionist legislation of this Congress. Prompt and unanimous action on the part of the majority in the House would be the best proof that the Republican party has not been demoralized by any results of the elections, and that it is confident of a contrary verdict two years hence.

The passage of these laws would be with the approval of a great many Democrats, especially in the South. Every port on the Gulf is interested in them, and nothing short of the most vigorous caucus coercion will keep some of the Southern Democrats from voting with the majority. So in New York City, the opposition to such legislation has broken down under the evidence that it is parallel to what England always has done for her merchant marine, and is now doing more openly than ever. So frank has the admission of the payment of subsidies become, that the British Admiralty has issued an order allowing subsidized vessels to display at their midmast a blue pennon, heretofore confined to ships of war. Not only is the Canadian Pacific line from Vancouver heavily subsidized to compete with our Pacific lines, but a subsidy of a million dollars is to be paid jointly by Great Britain and Canada for the establishment of a line between Halifax and ports on either side of the British Channel. By this arrangement, and the facilities we give for shipping goods in bond across our territory, New York will be deprived of a large trade not only with the Dominion but with points on our own Lakes.

THERE was a fine demonstration at Columbus, Ohio, last week, in honor of the seventy-seventh birthday of that veteran Democrat, Ex-Senator Thurman. Of course it was chiefly in the hands of his political friends, but Republicans were among the invited guests and even the speakers selected to respond to toasts, only one of which had a partisan reference. Mr. Thurman himself spoke briefly and admirably, saying, among other things:

"I am here, at the age of seventy-seven, to repeat my testimony, so often given, of my confidence in the beneficent effects of free institutions and my firm belief in their duration on this continent, and their gradual, but certain, extension over other and larger portions of the globe. I hope that it is not presumptuous in me to say that I think I have some of the necessary qualifications of a witness on the subject. Short as my life has been, in comparison with the lives of nations, it has been long enough for me to see my native land, under free institutions, increase in population more than seven fold; in wealth in a far, very far, greater degree; in extent of territory more than double its area; in the general well-being and prosperity of its people, and in their educational advantages and religious privileges without a rival in the world; while its magnificent works of internal improvement, its wonderful agriculture, its great mines and manufactures, and its marvelous means of communication, the creations of science and skill, surpass anything before known by the human race."

He was followed by Mr. Cleveland, who spoke in a tone and style which were strongly in contrast with the robust generalizations of Mr. Thurman, and which painfully recalled the quality of his speech at the Harvard Commencement dinner. His harangue was largely an exultation over the defeat of the Republican party, which must have made even the Democratic gentlemen present uncomfortable.

The ex-President should not lay too much emphasis on Republican reverses. The Tariff was certainly not less the issue in 1888 than in 1890. Then the Democratic party with him on its shoulders sustained a defeat. If it won this year, he may recall that he was not the candidate.

WE are sorry to be obliged to say that we fear Mr. Porter is not able to make a convincing defense of the trustworthiness of his Census. As was mentioned in this journal, some weeks ago, he could not explain the remarkable falling-off in the rate of increase between 1880 and 1890 except by discrediting the accuracy of the Census of 1870, which, as he justly said, was no doubt imperfectly taken. But he found it necessary, in order to close the gap at all, to claim that at least 1,500,000 persons were omitted in 1870; even upon this calculation he hardly justified his own results. Now comes General Francis A. Walker, who has been a defender of Mr. Porter's work generally, and who is undoubtedly as well qualified to judge of the merits of this question as any other living person, who says that in his opinion the omissions of 1870 are to be estimated at 500,000,—a million less than Mr. Porter desires to make them. This being done, the difficulty of accounting for the diminished rate of increase between 1880 and 1890 remains practically untouched, for the adding of half a million to the 1870 Census hardly affects the problem.

That Mr. Porter's enumerators were selected, as a rule, in the stupid fashion of the political "machine" we judge to be past denial. His supervisors were under the dictation of the party organizers; in this State they were a part of the Quay force; and their appointments of enumerators were made largely, if not entirely, according to the "orders" they received from "Bosses." That the enumerators were dishonest, or generally incapable, we do not believe; on the contrary, we do believe that they endeavored as a rule to do their work as they should; but that they were a partisan body it is not worth while to dispute, and the manner of their selection was not such as to secure the best men.

THE new Australian ballot system was on trial in the late elections, and some even of its friends admit that it was only a moderate success. In New York it was worked with a good deal of friction. In at least one Massachusetts town it was evaded entirely by the political bosses in a way which had been foreseen by its critics. The first ballot cast under their direction was a sham one, and the ballot received by the voter was handed over to the manipulator. He marked it as was desired, gave it to the next voter he controlled, and obtained the blank ballot given to him. In this way voting was carried on all day in entire defiance of the intention of the law. And it is said that the provision which forbids electioneering within ninety feet of the polling-places was ignored by common consent in many localities.

In Connecticut the question of the governorship depends on the interpretation of the law. In the town of Bridgeport 126 Republican votes were thrown out by the returning-board, on the ground that blots or specks of ink were found on them, and that these probably were meant for the identification of votes bought and paid for. If these votes were counted, the election of the governor would fall to the Legislature, in which the Republicans have a majority. If they are thrown out, Mr. Morris, the Democratic candidate, is elected by a small majority. Yet it appears very clearly from the statements in regard to the matter, made by the *Hartford Courant*, that the so-called "marks" were the merest trifle, being an atom of printer's ink which had accidentally attached itself to some of the ballots.

The Connecticut law is especially defective in not providing for the printing of ballots by the State. The representatives of the two parties conferred and agreed on a form of ballot, which entirely conformed to the requirements of the law. On the other hand the Secretary of State issued a form which departed from the law by the use of the word "For" before the designation of the office. In preparing the local tickets, both forms were employed, so that the State has a large assortment of uncertainties on hand as to the validity of local elections. Should the courts rule that the "For" ballots are illegal and invalid, this will elect Mr. Morris by a legal majority equal to his plurality over his Republican antagonist. Should the decision go the other way, enough Prohibitionist ballots that had been thrown out by returning-boards will be counted to make the Bridgeport ink blots of no importance.

As we have not had occasion to say much good of the new Constitution of the State of Mississippi, we take pleasure in observing that it contains a distinct denunciation of the right of secession. This from Mr. Davis's State is noteworthy. It is true that there still is a small Secessionist party in the South, but the average Southerner accepts the results of the war as affecting the question of States' Rights, even while he kicks at Reconstruction. He not only recognizes the fact that the Union is indissoluble, but he is very well satisfied that the question was settled that way. He has horse-sense enough to know that a Confederation based on the right to secede would have gone to pieces in a decade, and that even the integrity of its "Sovereign States" would have been in danger. The mass of the Southern people are as loyal to the Union as those of the North, and of late they have shown even more readiness to invoke the action of the national government in matters generally thought to lie outside its scope.

FOR the second time in its peregrinations from city to city the Church Congress of the Protestant Episcopal Church meets in Philadelphia. As it is not an official body, its discussions and papers are important chiefly as indicating the drift of opinion in the Church. Two points come out strongly. One is the more vivid sense of the relation of the Episcopal Church to other religious bodies in the common work of building up Christ's kingdom in this land, and the evident desire to go as far in the cultivation of friendly relations as is consistent with principle. Of course each section of the Church has its own idea of the extent to which this is possible. But all faces are set in that direction; and the superciliousness which once characterized a section of the High Church party is ceasing to be visible to any appreciable extent. Closely related to this is the deepening interest in social problems which lie outside the ecclesiastical field. It is the sense that these problems are large enough to tax the united energies and coöperant thought of our whole American Christendom, which is thawing out ecclesiastical reserve.

It is just here, however, that the clergy of all the churches seem disposed to overdo matters. They are unduly occupied with the merely economic aspect of social questions, to the neglect of their proper work of dealing with the ethical aspect. They assume, for instance, that the social discontent among the working classes grows out of some unfairness in the distribution of the joint-earnings of labor and capital, when in fact that distribution could not be fairer under present conditions than it is, and never was so fair as now. Nor would any possible alteration in it sweeten the relations of classes. What the workman really resents is the decay of personal recognition on the part of the employer of his labor. Once he worked harder, was paid less, and found all prices higher to him, and yet was comparatively content because there was no hard and fast social line to sunder him from other people. His position has undergone a vast economic improvement but a social deterioration. He is now an instrument, not a person. To secure him the amplest possible recognition of his personality inside and outside the Church, to diffuse the spirit of a broader and more sympathetic humanity, to crush

out the spirit of mammon-worship which is depressing him and exalting wealth into a social idol,—this is the problem of the Church of to-day. And no amount of study in Political Economy will bring the clergy a step nearer to its solution. Least of all will they accomplish anything towards it by coquetting with Socialism after a fashion too common with many of them.

At the instance of a committee appointed by the Presbyterian Synod of New York State, a conference has been held to consider the present status of moral and religious instruction in the public schools of the City and the State. Formerly the reading of the Scriptures was the common practice of the schools, and while no attempt was made to give the other school exercises a distinctly religious character, there was also no evasion of what seemed to be the religious bearing of any teaching. Latterly, and without any changes in the education laws, there has been a pretty complete elimination both of the Bible and of religious teaching of any description. Text-books of a kind calculated to prejudice the mind against the spiritual interpretation of any fact of human experience have been introduced; and the tone of the teaching has been in harmony with Spencer, Bain, and other new lights in philosophy.

The attention of the Synod was called to this, and it asked the representatives of other bodies to a conference on the question thus raised. This brought out the fact that even among orthodox Protestants there was not unanimity on this question. The character of the opposition to a return to the old state of things is best indicated by the resolutions adopted by the New York Baptists in refusing to attend the conference. They are in substance, that as the school-taxes are levied upon all, religion must not be taught in the schools, since it is not just to tax a man to have that taught which he does not believe in. This argument proves too much. A great many Philadelphians do not believe in the metrical system; some of our Lutherans agree with Dr. Seiss in regarding it as an invention of Anti-Christ. Yet they have to pay school-taxes to have it taught. Our Adventists, Christadelphians, and some other sects regard the idea of the natural immorality of the human soul as false and mischievous doctrine. Yet it is taught in the text-books of at least the High and the Normal Schools. A very large body of the people of New York State regard as fictions of the imagination much that passes for science in the teaching of the College of the City of New York. Yet they pay to have it taught. There are people in every State of the Union who are as agnostic with regard to the scientific character of Political Economy as the Ethical Culture people are with regard to the scientific character of theology. Yet it is taught, and paid for out of the public pocket.

On what ground is the dissent of a small minority on the question of teaching religion to be treated with greater respect and deference than is the dissent of these other minorities? Not on the ground that this is a subject of less importance to the state. As all history shows, it is the dominant religious idea which gives shape to the civilization of any country. Not that the state has nothing to do with such questions; every Thanksgiving proclamation is a confession to the contrary. In fact, as the London *Spectator* once said, every nation has its own theology, as truly as has every Church. As it holds its people to responsibilities on the line of that theology, it is only fair to them that its schools should teach it to them in their youth.

It is something of a disappointment to find the Sioux so full of discontent and of agitation so soon after they had been induced, as was thought, to enter upon the path of civilization and settlement in accordance with our new policy. It was hoped that whatever objections they had felt to the plan laid before them by the Interior Department, when once they had agreed to it everything would work smoothly. For the moment, however, the situation is quite different. The spread of the "Messiah" idea among the younger and more uneasy Indians, with the apparent,—and too

common,—failure of the U. S. Government to do for the Sioux what it agreed when they assented to the severalty treaty, have caused a seriously threatening condition of things in Dakota and Wyoming, and at this writing General Miles, who has direction of military affairs there, has brought into the neighborhood of the great Dakota reservations a body of troops approaching six thousand in number. It seems probable that the stories of the "Messiah," who is said to be a Pah-Ute of western Nevada, have been skillfully employed for purposes of excitement by the discontented "braves," for it seems that his teachings are not warlike, but peaceful.

That the trouble is in part at least the fault of the white man,—who as a truth-teller and treaty-keeper makes a poor show beside the Indian,—we are bound to apprehend upon the testimony of Professor Robinson, of Kenyon College, Ohio. He spent the summer among the Sioux, and he writes to the *New York Tribune* as follows:

"These Sioux were recently persuaded to sign a treaty for the sale of their lands. That treaty, founded on the Dawes bill, was negotiated by General Crook—the Indian's friend, as they fondly called him—Governor Foster, of Ohio, and General Warner, and these three gentlemen promised the Indians that if they would sell their lands they should be fed and clothed until their farms might render them self-supporting, that their rations should not be diminished, and that nothing they then received or enjoyed should be taken from them: Many of the Indians, from the recollection of previous contracts, could not believe in the white man's good faith, and several of the more hot-headed young braves were on the point of bundling off the Commissioners in a cart to the station at Rushville and shipping them home to Washington. But, relying on the past uniform uprightness of General Crook, the older, wiser Sioux succeeded in persuading the tribe to accept and sign the treaty. And yet, within a month after the signature, at Pine Ridge the beef issue was reduced 1,000,000 pounds for the year, at Rose Bud 2,000,000, whilst their annuities and other supplies were likewise curtailed. It has been said that General Crook felt so sorely about this breach of faith that it probably hastened his death, for he had always been scrupulous in keeping his word in all dealings with the Indians, and it was their confidence in his integrity that induced them to sign away their lands."

And it is also true, of course, that the treaty itself was forced. The Indian Bureau brought extreme pressure to bear on the Sioux to secure the cession of their lands. The decision reached by them was practically under duress. It was therefore all the more necessary that the Government's engagements should be kept with the most scrupulous exactness.

THE loss of the English torpedo-boat, the *Serpent*, off the coast of Spain is an event which has sent a chill down the "Admiralty's" back. Here is a ship built after the accepted pattern of English iron-clads, and with much the same proportions as regards strength of keel and frame-work to weight of armament and machinery as are to be found in other vessels of that navy. She gets shaken up in a Bay of Biscay storm, tries to make a Spanish port for repairs, but goes to the bottom, carrying down all but three of her complement of 270 persons. As these survivors say, the bottom seems to have been torn out of her by the weight put upon it, and she sank at once.

This is but one of a series of bad accidents to European iron-clads, which go to show what helpless crafts they are. Yet there has not been a single great war to subject them to the strain they were built to bear. The battle of Lissa between the Italians and the Austrians in 1866, and the few naval encounters of the war between Chili and Peru, constitute the whole of the experiences of this new type of vessel under fire. And Lissa was lost through the ease with which the Austrians sunk three Italian iron-clads, although the Italians had more ships, and bigger and heavier guns. The next war between two great maritime powers will be watched with absorbed attention by the civilized world.

In our own navy there is but one ship of the type to which the *Serpent* belonged. It was constructed after a model purchased of an English designer by Secretary Whitney; and it already displays some of the defects which were noticed in the ship just lost.

PROFESSOR KOCH holds the attention of medical scientists, the world over, and the rush of consumptive patients to the rooms of those physicians in Berlin who have already begun to treat cases by his method is one of the wonders of the hour. Prof. Pasteur's alleged hydrophobia cure caused a mild sensation, and Dr. Brown-Sequard's "elixir of life" soon ran its course from curiosity to contempt, but Dr. Koch is a scientific man who stands very high, and the profound impression made upon the opinion of physicians in all directions is very evident.

Unquestionably it is a subject of the deepest interest to the human race. If Dr. Koch is right, if a definite and dependable cure for tuberculosis has really been found, even the discovery of the virtues of vaccination becomes a minor triumph of medical science. Consumption exceeds every other disease in its ravages among civilized peoples, and a remedy for it will add greatly to the average of life.

It may be noted here, indeed, that the general interest and hopefulness show that the Mathusian nightmare has but little hold on the popular imagination, even in Europe. From Malthus' point of view Prof. Koch's discovery should be suppressed, and the discoverer regarded as an enemy of the human race.

THE Irish delegation who are visiting this country ought to be enjoying themselves. Their progress from city to city is a series of ovations, not unaccompanied by solid evidences of sympathy in the shape of subscriptions. Neither among our Irish citizens nor among the host of Americans who sympathize with Ireland's demand for autonomy is there any visible weakening of interest in the Home Rule cause; and the crowds who gather night after night to listen to Mr. Dillon and his associates are as large and as hopeful as when Mr. Parnell and Mr. Dillon were in this country twelve years ago. And with good reason. Then it seemed as though the Irish delegation in Parliament were a forlorn hope, with nothing in their favor except the justice of their demands, and the stolidity of England blocking the way. Now they have the support of one of the two English parties; and the fact that that party has made a net gain of thirty-two seats in the by-elections is sufficient reason to predict its success in the next general election.

There is one damper to this enthusiasm. The termination of the O'Shea divorce suit has confirmed the fears of Mr. Parnell's friends. He made no defense, because there was none to make. He stands convicted before the world of an offense which must damage his leadership fatally with the three chief bulwarks of the Home Rule party,—the Roman Catholics of Ireland, the Nonconformists of England, and the Scotch Presbyterians. The first will part from his company with the most regret. The Irish Catholics always have shown a hearty loyalty to Protestant leaders who embraced their cause. Swift, Grattan, Edward Fitzgerald, Napper Tandy, Curran, Robert Emmett, Thomas Davis, John Mitchell, and Smith O'Brien have been honored names in their memories. But among no people of Christendom does personal purity stand in higher esteem, or is its opposite held in greater dishonor. It seems, from the declaration of the *Freeman's Journal*, that it is not now intended by the Irish party that Mr. Parnell shall give up its leadership, but whatever may be said for the time, that must be the outcome. It is a new misfortune for Ireland that a man so wonderfully well calculated to organize its forces, to repress the discontents of individuals and features, and to deliver the blows of its representation in Parliament with directness, should prove himself fatally defective in point of private character.

FINANCIAL REVIEW.

NEW YORK.

IN view of the events of the past ten days in the financial world, which have directed all eyes to London, it may be timely to recall what was said in this article on November 8, after much had been said and much written about the worst of the troubles

being over. We took occasion to doubt whether they were, and after noting that our own markets were depressed most strongly by the collapse of the bull speculation in London, it was said of that collapse:

"It is improbable that the end has yet been seen. On general principles it would be safe to assume that it has not. So far, only two fortnightly settlements have brought heavy liquidation and failures in their train, and the failures have been unimportant. Now it is not in accord with past experience that so long a period of wild speculation as London has been indulging, a speculation which seemed to go to the ends of the earth in its search for material to gamble with, should suffer collapses and a return to a sound and healthy condition be effected, with nothing but one or two small squalls in the market. It is the usual thing that a financial thunder-storm occurs before the atmosphere is thoroughly cleared. The frequent cables from the other side that 'the worst is over,' must be taken as expressive of hope rather than judgment on the facts of the situation. The probability is that the worst has not been reached there."

On the day the above paragraph was written the Barings notified the Governors of the Bank of England that their house would be unable to hold out over another settlement. Had this house gone down the crash of credits the world over would have been frightful. The Governors held that emergency meeting which caused such a spasm in our own markets, and advanced the interest rate to 6 per cent. This was the first precautionary measure. Then they took under consideration the affairs of the embarrassed house, with a view to saving it if possible. Their deliberations and the subject of them, were kept a profound secret. Even the American correspondents of the Barings were kept in ignorance of what was going on. This was an absolute necessity, for had it become known that the house was practically insolvent while the Bank governors were still deliberating whether it could be saved or not, nearly all the worst effects of an actual declaration of insolvency would have followed. There would have been a general panic. Fortunately, the Bank of France was able to come to the help of the Bank of England, and by a timely loan enabled it to meet the extra strain put upon its resources, and the Barings were saved,—that is, their paper was made good by the Bank guaranteeing it.

Formal announcement of the condition of the house and the action of the Bank was made last Saturday morning. How did it find our market? In the most sensitive possible condition. Wall street had had a fearful week. The utter smash of the Villard house-of-cards had caused enormous losses; a large house had been carried down, an important bank had been brought so near to failure that only the prompt action of the clearing-house saved it; money was so scarce that borrowers were glad to get it at a rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per day; the whole list of stocks kept dropping; and worse than all, undefined rumors were in the air that something dreadful was impending, for cipher cables from London to leading houses expressed the fear that a great banking-house was about to go down, and panic was imminent. It was known that the Barings were in trouble, but no one outside of the few men who were deliberating on its affairs knew how much it was. When, therefore, the news came Saturday morning, and every one saw what a catastrophe had been hanging over us, for a short time men seemed to lose their senses. The only desire seemed to be to sell. Atchison went down with a rush, for every one thought of Kidder, Peabody & Co., the correspondents of the Barings, and in the wild fright of the moment it seemed to be assumed that their failure was assured. This lasted for about an hour, and then returning reason came. The selling was checked, the market steadied, and finally, on the appearance of an encouraging bank statement, it closed with a rally. It was twice over the biggest Saturday's business done in the market since that day was made a half-holiday.

Every effort was made to put a more cheerful look on things Monday morning, to which the intervening day of rest had greatly contributed. It gave men time to cool down, think calmly, and decide upon future action. Nevertheless no one appeared to expect anything better than that the market should decline slowly. The great fear was of failures. There were none of importance, and by Tuesday afternoon things generally began to look better; but the next morning all was in fright and confusion again, for London had had another convulsion, and the prices of our stocks came to us from one to four points below the closing quotations of the day before. Of course the market opened at this lower level, and the early trading was decidedly panicky; but these were the lowest prices of the day. From that time they began to mount upward. The rebound had started at last. It was found that some leading stocks were oversold. They could hardly be borrowed at all, and the bears who had sold them short found themselves under the necessity of paying a rate of one per cent. per day to borrow them, or of closing out their contracts at the higher prices made. Then, too, there had been an immense absorption of stocks by the public, who are always cash purchasers in times of panic prices. Two firms in the street make a speciality of

dealing in lots of less than 100 shares; and so greatly were they overburdened with business that they had to put up their rates to check it and get time to make their clearances.

The central figure in New York is Mr. Gould. He has emerged from his long retreat the foremost man, the one who has in a measure directed the storm, and made it serve his ends. All that has been done in the way of breaking down obstacles to a reconstruction of the relations of the western roads to each other, is not yet apparent; but it is evident that a reconstruction of the most radical character will follow. It seems safe to assume, first of all, that Mr. Villard will disappear from the scene. Wall street has had more than enough of him, and control of the Northern Pacific is understood to have passed to different interests. It is assumed also that Mr. Adams will retire from the presidency of the Union Pacific,—indeed his resignation may be announced before this gets into print. The Goulds go back as the controlling power in the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, and the party which turned them out last May have been thoroughly humiliated. They had either to sue for peace or see their stock broken down to such prices as would have caused them ruinous losses. They begged for mercy, and the price of it was an immediate change in the Board of Directors. This was made, and Pacific Mail stock, relieved of the pressure of Mr. Gould's hand, promptly jumped up in price. This event had a strong influence in causing the market to rally; and it is believed that Mr. Gould has accomplished all that he has been aiming at. In another week we shall be able to get a clearer idea of the general situation after this convulsion.

PHILADELPHIA.

The judgment of American financiers and business men concerning the situation in this country has at no time varied far from that which we have twice expressed: that conditions on this side of the Atlantic are favorable to a rise in values. The menace of panic and revulsion, the drag on prices, has come from London, and if it had not been that the stock of securities available for sudden sale in our markets had been greatly reduced,—if, in fact, the relations of American finance to London had been what it was ten years ago, or even five,—the disastrous results could hardly have been overestimated. But it is plain that the situation is greatly changed. The Bank of England is not in control of the money currents, and her ordinary, and heretofore effective, expedient of raising her discount rate has not brought money to London. When she was reduced to the necessity of borrowing, as an ordinary banker might, in Paris and elsewhere, her loss of dictatorial power over the markets of the world stood plainly confessed.

So far (November 20) not a dollar in gold has gone from the United States. If there have been large sales of London holdings in our markets, even that strain has been carried without the shipment of specie to settle the account.

Of the comparative independence which the United States has achieved, in finance, as in industry, we find a London journal, *Money*, speaking openly. "Practically," it says in a recent issue, "the rate of interest is as low in America as it is in Europe. . . . It would seem, therefore, that now the United States have capital enough to supply their own requirements." Of course this is an extreme statement of the truth. The rate of interest here does not average, for non-speculative investments, as low as in England for the same class. It is because England has become accustomed to look for higher interest returns, in the securities of South America, and other countries, that the disposition has grown there not to be satisfied with 3 per cent. And here the United States has greatly the advantage of London investors, for in the cases where our money has been placed speculatively it is at home, in enterprises which are guaranteed the protection of a stable and law-controlled society, and which with the continued development of our resources, may be expected generally to do well, without an excessive period of waiting. Nor is it entirely true that this country has capital enough for its own requirements, unless these are to be closely restricted within the limit of non-speculative undertakings.

It appears, now, as though the disorder in London had been brought within control. If so, we may, as already said, turn with cheerfulness to the consideration of our own affairs. As our New York article states, it is indicated that the railroad operations will become better systematized and more profitable. The crop of wheat, it is now believed, has been underestimated, and should be stated at 400 millions of bushels, leaving, with the surplus carried over, not less than 70 to 75 millions for export,—or, as some judges estimate, as much as 90 millions. This is a much better showing than was thought at all possible a month ago. Meantime, in spite of the disorder of exchange, and the distress in English finances, the movement of exports has been good.

One remark is surely pertinent, and true: it is not in the line of duty for the daily press to spread abroad pessimistic views of

the situation. If we are to experience such hard times as those of 1873-78, they will come quite surely enough without heralding them; and on the other hand, no means is more sure, for the destroying of confidence, the checking of enterprise, and the hoarding of money, than continued anticipations of these in the journals which reach the masses of the people.

ANGLICAN HYMNOLOGY.

THE Chairman of the English Church Congress of this year, in his response to the greetings brought by delegates from the great Nonconformist bodies, remarked that the most modern symbol and expression of Christian unity is a hymn-book. He might also have said that it furnished the most effectual instrument for obtaining that Christian unity, which will come, not by some Aaron's rod swallowing the others, but through each of the subdivisions of Christendom coming to appreciate and appropriate what is praiseworthy in the rest. In the great hymn-books of our day,—and this applies to those adopted by every one of the larger bodies of American Christians,—the idea of exclusivism is abandoned. Protestant and Catholic, Lutheran and Calvinist, Anglican and Presbyterian, Trinitarian and Unitarian, meet on the ground of a common faith. The Highest Churchman cannot dispense with Bonar's "A few more years shall roll," or his "I heard the voice of Jesus say." The stiffest Protestant finds room for Caswall's "My God I love Thee; not because" and his "O Jesus, King most wonderful." The Roman Catholic finds no heresy in Montgomery's "Angels from the realms of glory" or Keble's "Sun of my soul, thou Saviour dear," and the Calvinist none in Miss Adams's "Nearer my God to Thee" or Holmes's "O Love divine, that stooped to share." They thus meet on the ground of a recognition of a common Christian faith, which transcends parties and sects, and blends East and West, Quaker and Ritualist, in one great company worshipping God as revealed in and by Jesus Christ. And this recognition naturally takes the edge off the asperities of theological partisanship. When a man finds the expression of his highest devotional feelings in words first written by one of quite another creed, he is driven to recognize a deeper ground of unity than creeds furnish, and to discover that he has been realizing a fellowship of spirits broader than that of opinions. Such a discovery cannot but modify his conception of his own spiritual position and its duties.

No modern collection of hymns has been equal in interest, significance, and influence to "Hymns Ancient and Modern." It has been a most effectual instrument for the diffusion of the ideas of the Oxford or Anglo-Catholic movement both within and without the Anglican communion; and as no other single force of recent inception has done so much to change the face of our English-speaking Christendom as has that movement, this one hymn-book has a significance beyond any other in the language. It has been, from first to last, the work of an association of English clergymen, whose names are known only in part. Until his death last year, the Rev. Sir Henry W. Baker was the chairman, and then Rev. W. Pulling took his place. Among the contributors of original hymns, who may be, or may have been among the compilers, we find Archbishop Benson, Revs. R. M. Benson, W. St. H. Bourne, Prof. W. Bright, A. W. Chatfield, J. H. Clark, V. S. S. Coles, J. J. Daniell, John Ellerton, G. S. Hodges, Bishops Jenner and MacLagan, R. M. Moorson, E. H. Plumtre, Laurence Tuttiett, and H. Twells. But neither the preface nor the handbooks by Mr. Biggs and Mr. Moorson vouchsafe us any farther information on the subject.

When the book appeared in 1861, the hymn-books of both England and America were wretchedly below what the materials at hand would have supplied. In America Mr. Beecher and the Andover professors had made a beginning of better things; and Rev. Charles S. Robinson had entered upon his career as a hymn-book editor to the great benefit of all the churches. In England Wm. Mercer's book was the only really popular hymn-book, which had any pretensions to literary worth. But a great deal of preliminary work had been done both by Churchmen of all schools and by dissenters. Lyte, Charlotte Elliott, Montgomery, and

HYMNS ANCIENT AND MODERN for Use in the Services of the Church. London: Novello. 1861. (273 Hymns.)

The Same. With Appendix. 1868. (378 Hymns.)

The Same. Revised and Enlarged Edition. 1875. (373 Hymns.)

The Same. With Supplemental Hymns. 1889. (638 Hymns.)

HYMNS ANCIENT AND MODERN for Use in the Services of the Church, with Annotations, Originals, References, Authors' and Translators' Names, and with some Metrical Translations of the Hymns in Latin and German. Reedited by Rev. Louis Coutier Biggs. Pp. xiv. and 348. London. 1867.

A HISTORICAL COMPANION to Hymns Ancient and Modern; containing the Greek and Latin; the German, Italian, French, Danish and Welsh Hymns; the first lines of the English Hymns; the names of all Authors and Translators; Notes and Dates. Edited by the Rev. Robert Maude Moorson. Pp. xxiv. and 383. London: Parker & Co. 1889.

THE CHILDREN'S HYMN BOOK for Use in Children's Services, Sunday Schools, and Families. Arranged in the Order of the Church year. Published [by Mrs. Carey Brock] under the Revision of Dr. W. Walsham How, Dr. Ashton Oxenden, and Rev. John Ellerton. London and New York. 1881. (420 Hymns.)

Condor had shown the Evangelical party and the dissenters that a good hymn need not be written in the eighteenth century verbiage called "poetical diction." Gisborne, Bonar, Gill, and Lynch had shown, each in his way, how far a good hymn might depart from the conventional models, and advantageously. The Borthwicks, Miss Cox, Miss Winkworth, and Rev. A. T. Russell had laid open a part of the treasures of German hymnology. The High Churchmen had done as much for the Latin hymns. Mant, Keble, Isaac Williams, Chandler, Copeland, Campbell, Hewett, Chambers, Neale, and many others of the Anglo-Catholic party, beside the converts Newman, Oakeley, Campbell, Caswall, and Oxenham, had familiarized England to a type of hymn-writing more historical and objective than any it had known since the rise of Methodism. But more important still was the original work done by members of the same party, such as Keble, Anstice, Osler, Whytehead, Mrs. Alexander, and Bishop Howe. From the outset the Oxford movement was poetical by an inward necessity. The "Christian Year" was its first hand-book, and the "Lyra Apostolica" a more significant manifesto than the "Tracts for the Time."

Several distinct attempts had been made to furnish a hymn-book in accordance with Anglo-Catholic ideas, but none quite successfully. The first and worst was the "Hymnarium Anglicanum" of 1844, which proceeded upon the supposition that the principles of the movement required the disuse not only of modern hymns altogether, but even the exclusion of those not found in the mediæval service-books of the Church of England. Thus the "*Dies Iræ*" was laid under the ban equally with Bishop Ken and Charles Wesley. Another was the "Hymnal Noted" of 1851, the work of a committee in which Dr. Neale was the leading spirit. In its first editions at least it was confined to translations from the Latin, but no ultra-Anglicanism marked its selections of these. Its best translations have been claimed by Dr. Neale as his own. Broader in scope were Mr. Blew's "Church Hymn and Tune Book" of 1855, and the "Sarum Hymn Book" of 1858, the latter edited by Earl Nelson, Bishop Woodford, and E. A. Dayman. Although both contained valuable contributions to such a work as was needed, they did not meet the need. "Hymns Ancient and Modern" entered upon a field still unoccupied, and it has held it in spite of all rivals.

The first merit of the book was found in its large additions to English hymnody, and its careful adaptations both of older originals and of recent translations to church use. Those who will take the trouble to examine Mr. Biggs's annotated edition of the first issue of the book will be impressed with the care and the judiciousness with which the work of revision has been done. In that issue and its supplement there are 113 such recasts of hymns and translations, mostly the latter. They certainly represented more work and quite as efficient work as did the thirty-three original hymns and the twenty-nine new translations which the compilers furnished. First of all there was the work of selection, and as there are from a dozen to half a hundred English versions of almost every important Latin hymn, this of itself presented difficulties. Williams, Chandler, Caswall, and Neale were their favorites, Copeland, Chambers, and Potts coming next. The selection was just. Isaac Williams and Neale exhibit a literary facility and flexibility which few translators possess; Chandler has a masculine strength and Caswall a graceful sweetness which are all their own. In a few cases more than one existing version was made to contribute. In many the compilers virtually rewrote the translation. In most instances a middle course was taken. We observe that it is rare that their revisions have failed of becoming more popular than the original versions, and in a host of instances it was their recast which brought the hymn into the prominence it has enjoyed since. The same is true of some of their condensations. Neale's long poem based on the "*De Contemptu Mundi*" of Bernard of Cluny, had come out in 1858; but it was Sir Henry Baker's judicious selection and rearrangement of certain stanzas which gave it currency everywhere.

This part of the hymnologist's work is always thankless. For nothing has he been more abused than for his alterations of the text. Yet it is such alterations that have saved many a hymn from utter oblivion. Not every poet has the eye to criticize his own work justly, and polish away its defects. Not every man who can write correct verse has the musical tact required to make it singable. Shelley, for instance, never wrote a stanza that could be sung. In fact the merit of a revision depends on the merits of the reviser. It is claimed that what literary worth the Church of Scotland's "Paraphrases" possess, they owe to the finishing touches suggested by Burns; and this is quite credible. The compilers of "Hymns Ancient and Modern" were none of them poets of Burns's standing; but they were not troubled with the length of ear which is suggested by what passes for rhythm and rhyme in some American hymnbooks. They did their work with that fine taste which generally characterizes a thoroughly educated English-

man, who has absorbed the classics into his blood, and has accepted the *Meden ágan* of the Greeks as his Eleventh Commandment.

In the revised edition of 1875 and its supplement of 1889 the added hymns are much more generally originals. Some general favorites whom their severe taste had excluded, are admitted into the supplement,—Thomas Olliver's vigorous lyric "The God of Abram praise," Dr. George Duffield's "Stand up, stand up for Jesus," and Cowper's "There is a fountain filled with blood" being instances. We think they would have done well to have stood by their original judgments in some of these cases. But their largest additions are from the great body of new hymns and fresh translations which have appeared since 1861. There has been no more fruitful period in English hymnody than the thirty years just past. While original hymn-writing has proceeded with more energy than before, and the work of translation from Latin and German has been carried forward, that of translation from French, Danish, and Greek has been begun. The new edition shows the fruits of this. As for Scandinavian hymns, Mr. Baring-Gould's "Through the night of doubt and sorrow" (Ingemann) is the most successful rendering of any Danish hymn thus far. But no one who has looked into a Danish hymn-book will fail to recognize that here is a field as well worth working as any. Bishops Kingo, Grundtvig Hjort, and Brorson, and pastors Hammerich, Boye, and Frimann are names of note here, while Archbishop Wallin, Prof. Geijer, and Runeberg are worthy of attention in Swedish. In French literature, between the Psalm-singing of the Protestants and the Latinity of the Roman Catholics, there never has been a genuine hymnody. Cæsar Malan's "It is not death to die" and Theo. Monod's "Oh the bitter shame and sorrow" are the only French hymns that have taken hold in English translations, but neither is congregational. The compilers gave us two from Roman Catholic sources, of a meditative rather than a lyric character.

In Greek the materials for a translator are by no means so abundant and excellent as in Latin. Dr. Neale did his best in this field, but his renderings owe much to his fine literary gift and a certain unscrupulousness in improving upon his originals. His best hymns of this class,—for instance, "Art thou weary, art thou languid?"—owe little more than their suggestion to the text before him. There are few early Greek hymns of a church character preserved to us. The poetry of Synesius and Gregory Nazianzen is not hymnody. And the Byzantine hymn-writers, with here and there a flash of genius, are verbose, stiff, and generally tiresome. We do not look for much gain from that quarter, and none of the translations since Neale, except two versions of the very early *Phôs hîlaron*—"O brightness of the Eternal Father's face" by the Irvingite Eddis and "Gladdening Light, the bright forth-showing" by R. C. Singleton—which are worthy to put beside Keble's version: "Hail! gladdening Light, of His pure glory poured," but are not superior to it, as the compilers evidently think.

R. E. T.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF PHILADELPHIA.

THE resignation of Professor James MacAlister from the position of Superintendent of Public Schools of Philadelphia draws particular attention to his annual report for the year 1889, which has but lately appeared. In it he takes occasion to speak with candor of the present situation of the educational work of the city, and to indicate in an interesting degree the points in his system on which there has been most friction and controversy. Prof. MacAlister came to Philadelphia, from Milwaukee, in 1883, and began his work in May of that year. He was greeted here with warmth by every intelligent friend of the public schools who knew how much they needed the supervision of an energetic, progressive, and clear-minded educator, and THE AMERICAN [May 5, 1883] pointed out in an article reviewing the subject, the difficulties of the problem which he would encounter.

In his report, Prof. MacAlister, after speaking of the important steps taken in establishing the Superintendency, proceeds to say: "The city of Philadelphia stood alone in having no executive officer in the administration of its school affairs. Originally the free schools were managed by local boards, each of them an independent body, with the ward for its jurisdiction. These boards made their own rules, appointed the teachers, and directed the instruction within their own limits. In course of time, with the growth of the city, a central board was found to be a necessity, and the Board of Controllers, afterwards transformed into the Board of Public Education, was accordingly created; but the local boards were retained, and the management of the schools was divided between the two organizations. It was inevitable that difficulties should arise from this double system of administration, and the experience of the past amply justifies the statement that the progress of the schools has been greatly retarded by the multiplication of school officers and the conflict of authority. It was not till after ten years of agitation and effort, however, that an appropriation was secured from Councils and a Superin-

tendent appointed, who entered upon his duties May 1st, 1883. I think it may fairly be assumed that, taking into consideration all the circumstances of the case, the task was one surrounded with more difficulties than have ever fallen to the lot of any one occupying a like position in this country. It should be remembered that the Board of Public Education was by no means of one mind as to the desirability of creating such an office; that the local boards generally occupied a hostile attitude; that the great body of the teachers were unfavorable to the movement, and that public sentiment was indifferent on the whole question. There were 465 schools, 105,500 pupils, 2,168 teachers, and more than 400 school officers, in a population of a million souls, to be dealt with in effecting the improvements that were impatiently expected."

Analyzing the situation thus outlined, Prof. MacAlister goes on to say: "It was under these circumstances that the work of supervision was begun. There were no precedents or experience on the subject existing here. Even the right of the position to exist had to be justified. No rules could properly define the Superintendent's duties; the functions of the office had to be demonstrated by actual achievement. The possibilities of the work were without limit, and the opportunities were undoubtedly great; but these things did not make the task less onerous. The desirability of reform in almost every direction was conceded on all sides. It was not to be expected that a body of teachers, no matter how capable and earnest, could show results that were possible only under more favorable conditions. There had been as little unity in the character of the instruction and the fruits which it yielded as in the administration of the schools. The courses of study had been largely shaped by laymen. Examinations, promotions, and nearly all the details of school work had been almost wholly in the same hands. The standards applied to the teachers' work were not such as to encourage sound methods or to mete out rewards to the most worthy."

The first work of the Superintendent was to revise the courses of instruction. He began early in 1884 with the primary schools, in which a new manual of instruction was adopted, and this was followed in 1885 by the revised course for the secondary schools, and in 1886 by that for the grammar schools. "The changes in the methods of instruction which the schools have undergone within the past few years have been so radical that it is rather difficult to recall the manner in which the teaching was done in a very considerable number of the schools. In the lowest primary grade, a card which had the alphabet on one side and arithmetical tables on the other was the sole basis of the instruction in reading and numbers. In all the fundamental branches, concert recitation was the almost universal practice in the primary and secondary grades, and the same thing was more or less true of the more advanced grades. The memory was the faculty that was chiefly exercised in every branch of study; the perceptive powers of mind, the imagination, the judgment, and the reason were neglected because they could not be made to tell in the form of averages. The effort of the pupils was directed to the memorizing of rules or the repetition of formulæ in the most important studies. The development of power in the children, of the ability to think and do for themselves, would have been considered a waste of time and energy on the part of the teacher."

After the new courses of instruction had been adopted, the majority of the teachers eagerly laying hold of the principles and practice of instruction thus presented to them, the establishment of "Supervising Principals" followed. Until then the principal of each school had been simply the teacher of the highest grade, who was charged with such oversight of the instruction and discipline of the school as he found time to attend to. In a school building there might be a half-dozen schools, each with its own principal, and all of them entirely disconnected. The unsatisfactoriness of such a system had become so apparent before the appointment of a Superintendent, that in two or three schools the principals had been relieved of teaching duty to permit them to devote their whole time to the general direction of the schools. There are now sixty Supervising Principals in charge of school buildings, and Professor MacAlister remarks: "The larger the school system, the more urgent becomes the necessity for close supervision, and I have no hesitation in saying that the future of the public education of Philadelphia depends largely upon the extent to which the schools are brought under the direction of supervisors properly qualified for the performance of their arduous and responsible duties."

Other steps of progress taken in the seven years have been improvement in examinations, which in 1883 were without system or uniformity; the establishment of the Manual Training School, whose excellent results have so thoroughly justified its design; the establishment of the classes of instruction in sewing and cooking; the adoption of the Kindergartens; and the reconstruction of the course of study in the High School. In connection with this last subject, and after pointing out the necessity for some radical changes in the (Girls') Normal School, the Superintendent says:

"It must not be inferred from anything that has been said that any of the courses of instruction now in force are to be regarded as a finality. No scheme of instruction is ever finished. It is the 'machine' teacher who clamors for limits fixed for all time. No matter with what skill and care a course may be devised, the necessity for revision will soon become apparent. Better methods become elaborated; unexpected adjustments are called for, and the Superintendent who understands his duty will be the first to welcome the former and to provide for the latter."

There are now in Philadelphia 461 schools of all grades, with 2,563 teachers and 116,701 pupils. The future of these is a question of the highest importance to the city. If they are to be placed in the hands of an incompetent or a weak Superintendent, and especially if the political influences which swarm in and about the mischievous local boards are to become stronger and more controlling, it will be a calamity indeed. It is the misfortune of Philadelphia, in common with all great cities, to be continually beset by political schemers whose sole object is their own advancement, and she has the special disadvantage that there is not yet such a consolidation of the school system, and such a firm and loyal *esprit de corps* among all connected with it, as makes it able to defy the intrigues of the weak and the corrupt.

THE SITUATION OF CANADA.¹

DAILY events are turning the attention of the American people more and more to the five millions of people—mostly English-speaking—who live beside them, and divide with them occupancy of the continent of North America. It is not easy to ignore the fact of neighborhood. It is of some interest to any man who his next-door neighbor is, and what he is like. Every nation is concerned in the affairs of the nation lying on its borders, and it is impossible for the United States to be entirely indifferent to the growing community to the north of it, which is fast assuming national proportions.

The Dominion of Canada embraces to-day, under one federal government, the entire territory of British North America, including the islands, with the exception of Newfoundland, which has so far preferred to remain outside the confederation. This vast area is divided into seven provinces and four territories. The provinces are as follows, taken in the order of their population and wealth: Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island, and British Columbia. The four territories, which include vast areas of prairie-land in the great Northwest, very thinly populated, are Alberta, Assiniboia East, Assiniboia West, and Saskatchewan. Canada has made rapid progress since 1867 in both revenue and expenditure. The fiscal year ends June 30th. The total revenue of Canada for the first year after confederation, ending June 30, 1868, was \$13,687,928, and the total expenditure for that year was \$13,468,092. For the year ending June 30, 1889, the total revenue was \$38,782,870, and the total expenditure on current account was \$36,917,835. The public debt has also made large advances, it being incurred almost entirely for public works. In 1867 the gross public debt of Canada was \$93,046,051. The assets amounted to \$17,317,410, leaving a net public debt of \$75,728,641. For the year ending June 30, 1889, the gross debt was \$287,722,063, the assets \$50,192,021, and the net debt \$237,530,042. The total imports for the year ending June 30, 1889, was \$115,224,931, and the total exports for the same period was \$89,189,167. To show how far the United States is interested in this trade, it may be mentioned that of the exports \$43,522,404 was sent to the United States, \$38,105,126 to Great Britain, and less than \$8,000,000 to the rest of the world. Of the imports there was received from the United States \$56,537,440; from Great Britain, \$42,317,389, and less than \$17,000,000 from the rest of the world. The balance of trade has been in favor of the United States uniformly and without exceptions since 1867.

Canada has several problems of an interesting and far-reaching character which are engaging the attention of the people. The first and widest of all is what is to be her destiny. At this moment, with five millions and more of people, with great wealth, rapidly-developing industries, with two of the greatest railway systems in America or the world, and with all the elements of national life, Canada is nothing but a "colony," an "appendage," to the British crown. This position is humiliating, but it pays. The people of Canada have all the advantages of British prestige for their protection. All the ministers and consuls of the empire are the servants of the Canadian people without cost, and they have been able to work out large problems of domestic economy undisturbed by any haunting sense of foreign aggression, or any responsibility for the happenings of the world at large. But it is absurd to say that Canadians will be content much longer to hold the position of colonists. The hour is approaching when this question will come

¹ From an article by Hon. J. W. Longley, Attorney General of Nova Scotia, in *Harper's Weekly*.

up for serious and definite settlement. All thoughtful persons recognize this. How it will be settled is certainly a perplexing problem. Men there are in both Canada and Great Britain who still dream of a united empire, with all the colonial possessions scattered throughout the world joined in a confederacy in which all will be coördinate in power and equal in responsibility. Imperial federation may become a reality, but it looks to the average observer to be a huge chimera, a midsummer dream. Others there are who think that the manifest destiny of Canada is to become part of the great continent to which it belongs. These people argue that Canadian institutions are naturally molded under the same broad influences of North American civilization as characterize those of the United States; that monarchy can never permanently flourish in America; and therefore, since Canada is bound ultimately to have a republican form of government, and has already the federal system, it would subserve the interests of the whole continent to have one federal government, instead of two, as at present. This idea sounds well, and looks reasonable enough, but to say truly, it is not a popular conception of the destiny of Canada. There is at present a marked prejudice against annexation among the Canadian people. It may be only a prejudice, and it may wear away, but it is founded upon sentiment, and this is an ugly customer to reckon with when determining national problems. Friendly action on the part of the United States may cause a new and better spirit to prevail. At present a majority of the Canadian people do not look to union with the United States as the ultimate destiny of the country.

REVIEWS.

MILLIONAIRES OF A DAY. An Inside History of the Great Southern California Boom. By T. S. Van Dyke. New York: Fords, Howard & Hulbert.

THE miracle which transformed Southern California from a desert burrowed by rabbits and gophers, given over to cactus and scrub, parched by the sun nine months of the year, then washed and scarred into deep gullies strewn with boulders, cobble stones, and coarse sand when the rains descended,—into a smiling land all filled with fruit and flowers, was an interesting and valuable process. Mr. Van Dyke who understands the subject as only a man can who has watched it from the beginning, has written a lively and instructive book, describing the march of progress which finally led up to the wonderful boom in real estate in Pasadena and Los Angeles.

This whole region originally belonged to what men called the "Mexican grants." It was public land and was given to settlers. The stiff clayey soil offered such difficulties to farmers, however, that it was declared an impossible feat to make a dollar out of the ground. The large land-owners raised cattle, horses, and sheep to the exclusion of everything else. The grangers after a few efforts lapsed into a lazy, hopeless, shiftless condition, accepting half-civilized Mexican habits and customs. The climate was charming, soft, and mild in winter, in summer varied by dry cool breezes; there was an endless stretch of sunny days unmarred by storms; thus, half-starved although the inhabitants were, they preferred to live under these charming skies rather than contend with bad weather elsewhere.

It did not occur to that generation of settlers that they might not understand the peculiarities of California Conditions. They recounted how vermin and every kind of mischievous bird devoured all that they planted, and the dry season finished the very roots of anything which could be coaxed into growing. The theory that immense profits would follow a good system of irrigation for this region was received with contempt. Irrigation was then considered a miserable and troublesome make-shift,—a substitute for rain. The old grangers had to die out before the idea was clearly understood in California that dependence on capricious clouds was the make-shift, and irrigation the scientific and trustworthy basis of all farming and gardening operations. Irrigation by that time had become a branch of study; it offered a profession to men. Civil engineers took it up and went to Italy to see how the rich plains of Lombardy had by artificial means, been converted from their original sterility into their present wonderful fertility. This was the process by which the California soil which had at first seemed thin, hard, and worthless as a burnt brick, incapable of bearing fine grass or any vegetation except a scanty brush, was mellowed into a rich loam which in five years made the farm pay an income of ten per cent. on the cost of the land and all the improvements. By 1885 the same districts which had hitherto produced only the coarsest herbage and where no buildings except the rudest shanties had been seen, showed handsome houses over-run with roses and honeysuckles, surrounded by smooth, green lawns, flower beds where jessamines, camillias, fuchsias, geraniums, and heliotropes bloomed perennially; hedges of lime, cypress, pomegranate, India-rubber, camphor, and umbrella trees

growing with tropical luxuriance; while on all sides were orchards and gardens rich in orange, lemon, and olive trees, to say nothing of apple, pear, peach, plum, apricot, nectarine trees, and thirty varieties of grapes.

This reads like a fairy story, but California is the real wonder land. The soil had required only a proper system of treatment. If the early granger had ever watered, he had done it in a way to make the clay bake harder than before under the rays of the sun. With better processes and judicious cultivation, the ground was kept so mellow and moist, that it was only necessary to irrigate four or five times a year, and for grapes and deciduous fruits only twice or thrice.

The climate had always been an attraction to those whose health needed a mild, even temperature, and this magnificent fertility soon added an irresistible temptation to settlers and to tourists. The former bought land which they at once made productive, and the latter, looking idly on, began to say that this region was the true paradise on earth and, that no speculation could be safer than to invest a little money in these towns which were soon to become great cities.

How the "boom" began, how capitalists, speculators, real-estate agents, adventurers, invalids, and tourists all helped to inflate it, is capitably told by Mr. Van Dyke. One curious fact about the craze which set in is that the farmers themselves were carried away by it, and their fertile fields were staked off into town-lots. Some men of moderate ambition and caution made a great deal of money out of the opportunity, others who held on to their purchases, expecting a further rise, at last lost heavily. For the speculation never took in the really valuable lands, the irrigable uplands which are the desirable part of Southern California. The "boom" concerned twenty-five-foot town lots in business centers which no one actually wanted, while the farms on the hill-sides with great groves of oranges that were paying from five hundred to a thousand dollars an acre, vineyards of raisin grapes that were paying two hundred, orchards of apricots and other fruits that were paying from one hundred to one hundred and fifty an acre, did not change hands at all.

The speculation had a variety of interesting and amusing features, and the whole story of it is capitably told by the author of "Millionaires of a Day." K.

AGAINST HEAVY ODDS. A Tale of Norse Heroism. By Hjalmar Hjorth Boyesen. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

STORIES TOLD AT TWILIGHT. By Louise Chandler Moulton. Boston: Roberts Brothers.

CROWDED OUT OF CROFIELD. By William O. Stoddard. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

Flaubert once remarked to Maupassant that if an author had any distinctive bias, it was his first duty to cultivate the tendency and follow it at all hazards; if he had none, then he must create some originality for himself. Prof. Boyesen has, if not an absolute originality, at least a field of his own from his early experience of Norway. And in all his stories of that far-away people he shows a freshness and a sympathetic faculty, which are, it seems to us, often lacking in his pictures of American life. Any foreigner is apt to make mistakes; his emphasis falls on the wrong place, his observation is faulty when he tries to describe the chief features of a society of different language and traditions.

In "Against Heavy Odds" Mr. Boyesen is at his best, and he has written an excellent book for boys and girls. Ingomar, the little hero, has had the grief of beholding his father suffer cruel reverses of fortune, and although he is only a boy, he makes up his mind to retrieve all their losses by some great effort of his own. He has a turn for invention, and hearing that a great source of loss in the whale fisheries comes from the fact that the wounded whale often sinks to the bottom and is lost, Ingomar sets to work to find some remedy. He contrives a hollow harpoon, which being filled with some compound will explode as soon as the weapon penetrates the whale's skin, and inflate the body with gas which will cause it to float. The invention is a successful one, but before it can be perfected the lad has to contend with every sort of difficulty that a powerful monopolist, who wants the harpoon for his own ship, can impose. It is a capital story, full of lively incidents, and will please readers no longer young as well as those for whom it is particularly intended.

Mrs. Moulton always has a graceful touch, and the stories in the collection, "Told at Twilight," show the tenderness and sympathy which are always attributes of her work. If the crying evil of the day is the lack of sentiment and reverence in the rising generation, such literature must be a corrective to the slanginess and flippancy which are too often found in children's books. The opening story "Nothing Venture, Nothing Have" gives a pathetic story of a bright little artist who is run over while drawing a picture on the flags of a London street. He is carried off to a hospital

and at first supposed to be dead. His sketch remains on the flagstones and is the inspiration of a painter who reproduces it on canvas, and the picture is the success of the season. The boy is cured and happens to see his own creation on the walls of the Academy, and he becomes the pupil of the great painter. "Choosing Time" and "A Daughter to Spain," are also good stories.

Mr. Stoddard's story relates to the experiences of Jack Ogden, the son of the blacksmith of Crofield, and is a lively narrative of experiences of the conditions of the day we live in. Crofield appears to be a town up in the interior of New York, and Jack, who finds that there is little opportunity there for his energy and intelligence to win money, is filled with ambition to get to the great city, which plan he presently accomplishes. There is a succession of lively incidents, joined with some interesting adventures, and if all of us could be as successful, in a material sense, from our youth upward, we should be millionaires before our hair began to turn. This, in fact, is the philosophical, if not the ethical, defect of the story: it presents a picture to the youthful mind calculated to encourage such sanguine hopes of money profits as the practical experiences of life will certainly negative. From making a surprising catch of big trout and getting them at a dollar a pound, down to the phenomenal triumphs of selling large orders for groceries in a great New York hotel, the story runs into the marvelous. (New York: D. Appleton & Co.)

THE ROBBER COUNT. A Story of the Hartz Country. By Julius Wolff. Translated by W. Henry Winslow and Elizabeth R. Winslow. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell & Co.

There is no lack of action in this German novel, and many of its scenes are described with force and spirit. The fault of the book seems to be that not sufficient clearness is given to the actual story; there are too many characters, and the chief personages are half eclipsed by figures which ought to be subsidiary.

The hero himself is one of those brave and vigorous men whose history belongs to the times when each petty lord and sovereign in Germany had his own stronghold, his own retainers, and incessant raids, incursions, wars, plots, and counterplots made up a scheme of life dear to the historical romancer.

Although Albrecht Von Regenstein was called by his enemies "The Robber Count," he seems to have been one of the best of his day and generation. He had powerful enemies, however, and when he fell into their power they took a cruel revenge. "The prison cage" in which he was confined after his capture is shown to-day, as are his weapons, hunting pouch, and spurs. And the author says, if one asks a Suabian school-boy who Albrecht Von Regenstein was, he is certain to reply at once, "Why he was the Robber Count."

THE TEMPTING OF PESCARA. By Conrad Ferdinand Meyer. Translated from the German by Mrs. Clara Bell. New York: W. S. Gottsberger & Co.

We chiefly think of Vittoria Colonna in connection with Michael Angelo, whose love for her, dream as it was, seemed the sole compensation of his long and lonely life. Yet Vittoria became early in her career, the wife of the Marquis of Pescara, a famous general, commander of infantry to Charles Fifth of Spain, whose successful armies overran Italy from 1518 until Pescara's death in 1525. In 1521 he captured Milan, in 1522 he pillaged Genoa, and in 1524 invaded Provence. Duke Sforza of Milan made a league with other Italian princes, that they should combine all their strength, and drive the Spanish army out of Italy. This novel recounts the history of this scheme, and the efforts to induce Pescara to betray his foreign master and join his countrymen. Vittoria, his wife, used all her influence to persuade him to this course. One of the most beautiful of her sonnets embodies her hopes: "Free Italy and let her be the prize." Pescara, nevertheless, remained faithful to his allegiance, and even felt it to be his duty to divulge the plot to Charles the Fifth.

At the date of this story, Michael Angelo was in Florence, building and decorating the chapel of San Lorenzo. He was at this time known to Vittoria only by reputation.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

THE first volume of the Talleyrand memoirs is said to be printed, but it has been decided to publish the first and second volumes together, about the 1st of January.

Edward Bellamy contemplates starting a weekly in New York as a propagandist organ of the Nationalists.

The Seeger & Guernsey Co. of New York have in press a Spanish edition of their "Cyclopedia of the Manufactures and Products of the United States," for circulation in Mexico and South America.

Daniel S. Appleton, of the firm of D. Appleton & Co., died in New York on the 13th inst., aged 66. He entered the firm in 1849, and had charge of the manufacturing interests of the house.

Rev. Dr. H. M. Dexter, editor of *The Congregationalist*, died in New Bedford on the 13th inst., aged 69. He had written much on religious subjects, and his books, "The Voice of the Bible" and "Congregationalism" have gone through several editions.

Mark Twain, it is reported, will for some time pay more attention to the development of a type-setting machine, in which he is financially interested, than to literary work.

The recent statement that Prof. Huxley himself wrote the sketch of his life in the new volume of Chambers's "Encyclopædia" is denied by the editor of that work. He says: "Prof. Huxley was good enough to correct and return to us the article we forwarded to him, in accordance with our usual custom in the case of important biographical articles, and at the foot of the list of articles prefixed to Vol. IV. we thanked Prof. Huxley, along with several other gentlemen, for such revision."

The great hurricane of last year at Samoa is said to form the central episode of Mr. R. L. Stevenson's new story, "The Wrecker."

A new series, "Events of Our Own Time," has been begun by Scribner & Welford. The volumes will be devoted to the most important events of the last half century. Each will contain from 300 to 400 pages, and will be illustrated. The initial volume will be "The War in the Crimea," by Gen. Sir Edward Hanley, K. C. B., with portraits, maps, and plans. This will be followed by "The Indian Mutiny of 1857," by Col. Malleon, C. S. I.; "Achievements in Engineering," by Prof. Vernon Harcourt; and "The Liberation of Italy," by Edward Dicey. Other volumes, including "The Civil War in America," "The Re-founding of the German Empire," "The Exploration of Africa," and "The Opening of Japan" are in preparation.

A popular edition of Mr. Hill's "Boswell's Life of Johnson" is under way by Harper & Bros., in six volumes. Hill's "Boswell" has by the general critical judgment been raised to the position of a standard work.

Macmillan & Co. will publish an account of the rise and progress of Mahdism and other events in the Soudan, written by Major F. R. Wingate, who is now serving in the Egyptian army.

Thomas Y. Crowell & Co. will publish at once the first volume of Sybel's important work on "The Founding of the German Empire by William I." The second volume will be ready early in January next, the remaining three volumes early in the spring of 1891. The work has been translated by Prof. Livingston Perrin of the Boston University.

"A New England Nun" is the title of Miss Mary E. Wilkins's forthcoming volume of stories. This lady's work has been more than commonly successful, and the degree to which it is appreciated is shown in one way by the fact that she is one of the twenty female writers who stood highest in the recent voting of New York *Critic* readers. Many of her short stories have appeared in *Harper's Bazar*.

Funk & Wagnalls will publish at once "Samantha Among the Brethern," by Marietta Holley ("Josiah Allen's Wife.") It is a semi-humorous protest against the decision of the Methodist General Conference respecting the admission of women as delegates to that body.

The London *Spectator* pays this marked tribute to the late Mr. Mudie: "This generation has lost in Mr. Mudie one of its most modest and yet most genuine benefactors. One of the greatest of his services was his introduction to English readers of the more thoughtful of the American writers, Emerson, for instance, and Mr. J. Russell Lowell, whose essays were first made familiar to Englishmen by Mr. Mudie's personal interest in them."

Messrs. Macmillan & Co. propose bringing out a work on natural history in eight volumes. Dr. J. W. Clark of Cambridge will be the general editor, and the different departments will be under the care of specialists.

George Eliot is evidently appreciated in India, for "Silas Marner" has just been included in the list of books used in the public schools there.

The copyright of Schopenhauer's works in Germany will expire with the beginning of next year, and various reprints may be expected.

"Within an Ace," a book recently published by Messrs. Digby & Long, of London, has been prohibited by the Russian censorship.

The Worthington Company call attention to the fact that they have come into possession of the plates of several standards, which they intend issuing in complete sets. Among those in preparation are Wilson's "Noctes Ambrosianæ," Napier's "Pen-

insular War," "Works of Thomas Gray," Payne's "Arabian Nights," and "Thackeray's Complete Works."

"Impressions and Opinions" is the title of a work by Mr. George Moore, to be published early in the new year. It will be made up of essays from magazines and reviews.

The house in which John Locke was born, 253 years ago, at Wrington, Eng., is in a ruinous condition, and an effort is being made for restoring and preserving it.

Further reminiscences of the Emperor Frederick of Germany are about to appear. The writer is Professor Shellback, who was a tutor of the late Emperor. He was on intimate terms with the prince to the last, and it is believed his book will prove interesting.

The Bashkirtseff "boom" continues. The first edition of the cheap issue of the "Journal" was at once exhausted, and another is being made ready.

Mr. A. H. Bullen is bringing to an end his series of Lyrical Anthologies with an edition of Davison's "Poetical Rhapsody," in two volumes.

What a curious thing it is, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, that no enterprising publisher gives us an edition of Gladstone's speeches. There would have to be some amount of selection, of course, or few "gentlemen's libraries" would have room to house the volumes. But a library edition of Mr. Gladstone's most noteworthy utterances, in and out of Parliament, is distinctly a desideratum.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

THE December issue of the *Cosmopolitan Magazine* has a unique feature in illustration. Dan Beard, the artist, has made for it a series of 123 cartoons, to illustrate "Christians during the Eighteen [why not nineteen?] Centuries of the Christian Era," and these are placed one at the bottom of each page of the magazine. Among the literary contents are a paper by General James Grant Wilson on Field-Marshal Von Moltke, and one by Miss Bisland on the Omerammergau Passion-Play. Prof. Sherburne Hardy gives the second installment of "The Army of Japan." The publishers announce that they print 100,000 copies of this number.

Brander Matthews contributes to *Harper's Weekly*, issued this week, a biographical and critical sketch of the distinguished French writer François Coppée. The article is accompanied by a portrait of Coppée, engraved from a drawing by Albert E. Sterner.

Sundry and various of the "dialects" of the United States language are presented in the fiction in *Harper's Magazine* for December. The story of "A Speakin' Ghost," by Annie Trumbull Slosson, is told in the language of the New Hampshire "hill folks"; "P'laski's Tunaments," by Thomas Nelson Page, is related chiefly in the negro jargon of Old Virginia; Richard Malcolm Johnston, in "Mr. Gobble Colt's Ducks," presents some characteristic specimens of back-country talk in Georgia; and a few examples of Maine dialect are given by Sarah Orne Jewett in the story of "Jim's Little Woman."

The *Popular Science Monthly* begins in the December number a series of papers on "The Development of American Industries since Columbus." It has been announced that one of the features of the coming World's Fair is to be a comparison of the great manufactures of to-day with the condition of the same industries at the discovery of America, and it is the idea of these papers to describe the successive steps by which the distance between those two stages has been passed over. The first paper is that on "First Steps in Iron-Making," describing the start made by the Colonies. The author is Mr. W. F. Durfee, a Pennsylvanian.

Mr. W. M. Griswold now issues monthly a small and compact, but quite comprehensive "Continuous Index" to Periodical Literature, including 47 weekly, monthly, and quarterly publications. He desires to increase his subscription list, (at \$2 a year for ten numbers), in order to secure "pound rates" at the post-office. Mr. Griswold is an indefatigable worker in this field and always deserves a generous support.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION.

ENGLISH CONCLUSIONS ON AMERICAN RAILWAYS.

George Bartrick Baker, in *The Contemporary Review*.

JUDGING, therefore, from the past, it would seem as if investors would do well to steer clear of American railway securities in the future; and yet probably for once this would be the wrong course. No doubt many of the evils to which we have drawn attention, such, for instance, as bad management and unsatisfactory methods of book-keeping, still exist in full force, nor can any immediate improvement be expected; but, on the other hand, the

personal influence of the railway "bosses," although still powerful for evil, counts for much less than it did, and seems, in fact, likely to be a diminishing quantity. Rates also, although they have not reached their minimum, have now receded to such a low level that any further decline is certain to take place slowly. Moreover, as we have said, the railways have now in nearly every case got down, as it is phrased, to "bed-rock," although, unfortunately, that too generally implies no dividends, if not something approaching to bankruptcy. Beginning at the East, we find that in what may be termed the "traffic island" of New England— isolated as it is from most of the competition for through traffic—the companies have acquired a large local business, and are steadily paying satisfactory dividends. The Eastern trunk-lines, which extend from the Atlantic sea-board to the lakes of Chicago, have been "through the mill," and are now beginning to slowly recuperate as the country around them develops. Farther West, in the great traffic region lying between Chicago and the Rockies, the roads have as yet but barely passed through the same process, and this statement also applies to the lines on the Pacific slope. They have no doubt been through the worst agony, but resuscitation and an adjustment to new conditions have scarcely begun to take place. And until something has been done in this way it will be difficult to form a definite opinion in regard to the "survival of the fittest." The Southern railways, however, are prospering, for, like the New England lines, they lie out of the main current of trans-continental traffic, and a great industrial development is taking place around them. It seems probable, then, that at last, after many years, American railway securities have seen their worst, and that their position is now likely to slowly improve as local traffic develops. Nevertheless, the shares, both ordinary and preferred, will be very speculative investments for some years to come, if not indeed always, and those who need solid securities should confine their attention to the mortgage bonds, most of which, with the exception of the so-called Income bonds, may be regarded as sound and fairly remunerative investments.

How the recent shrinkage has left home railways and foreign Government stocks can be best seen from the following table:

[The writer here gives a tabular statement of the highest quotations of shares on the London market, in 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888 and 1889, and the "current prices," presumably about October 1st. He quotes altogether 26 stocks, of which 14 are English railways, two are Canadian, and one Mexican. The other nine are the national loans of the Argentine Republic, Brazil, Egypt, France, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and Uruguay. His table shows advances in price since 1885, in ten of the English railways, one of the Canadian, and in the Mexican. Four English railways and one Canadian were lower. All the foreign lines except the Argentine and Italian, were higher. But since the making of this table there has been, of course, a great decline in the London market.]

Home railway stocks, it will be seen, now stand much below the highest prices reached in 1889; but they are still greatly above the level of preceding years, and, with one or two exceptions, still yield only a low rate of interest to investors. In view of the trade outlook, which cannot be regarded as altogether encouraging, it is doubtful whether they are not still quite as high as the conditions warrant. Foreign Government securities, however, afford no room for doubt—they nearly all stand at what must be regarded as absurdly high quotations. Three instances are sufficient, viz., Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese stocks, which yield from $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., despite the embarrassed financial condition of these countries and the many uncertainties of politics.

To conclude, it is evident that investors still need to exercise much discretion if they wish to safeguard their savings, for, despite the great fall which has occurred, and which is a strong incentive to indiscriminate purchase, it will probably be, in some cases at least, "money in their pocket" if they simply sit still and do nothing.

AMERICAN BUSINESS CONDITIONS SOUND.

Bulletin of the Iron and Steel Association.

On Tuesday morning [Nov. 18] when our paper goes to press, the skies have cleared and the storm is over. It was a very lively storm while it lasted. There have been no important failures in this country as a result of the flurry. Instead of harm being done to the business interests of the United States by this English panic we will doubtless be great gainers by it, as the scare we have had will serve to attract attention anew to the dangers of over-trading and to the mischievous character of booms. It can not be denied that for several years this country has been giving much more attention to booms than it should have done. A more cautious and conservative policy will now be inaugurated; the banks will be more careful than they have been; and although prices of real estate, good securities, and manufactured goods may rule lower than

they have recently done, we will all be better off in the end. The lesson taught by the late financial storm, and from the serious effects of which we have narrowly escaped, is that prosperity that rests upon borrowed money is deceptive and unstable. This is an old truth, of course, but something was needed to call our attention to it.

It must be added, however, that the general business interests of this country were never on a sounder basis than they are today, for which thanks are due to our sound financial legislation and our wise Protective policy. The fate of the Argentine Republic should be a warning to the American people to hold fast to the old ways.

CURRENT EXCERPTS.

PROBABLY NO TIN-PLATE WORKS.

The Manufacturer, (Philadelphia).

ONE result of the late election, little noted, will be to defeat the purpose of the McKinley bill to establish the manufacture of tin plates in this country. The law, as is well known, provides that tin plates of certain important kinds shall come in free of duty after October 1st, 1897, unless the quantity manufactured here shall equal one-third the amount imported during any fiscal year after the passage of the act. The men who have been ready to venture their capital in an effort to meet these requirements now have to consider, first, the certainty that the next Congress will make a strong attempt to take off the whole duty at once; and, second, the possibility that the recent political revolution may indicate a permanent condition of public opinion which will make any movement in this particular industry absolutely futile. It may be doubted if any American is so anxious to make tin plate that he will put his money at the hazard of all these uncertainties. Thus the wise provisions of the new Tariff act for encouraging an attempt to make here the vast quantities of tin plate consumed here, have probably been completely nullified. The result will be that a nation which consumes three-quarters of the world's product of tin plate, will continue to be dependent for its supply upon another nation. We shall go on paying \$60,000 a day to Britons for an article which can, without difficulty, be made at home, and we shall pay monopoly prices. It is as nearly certain as any unattained result can be, that if the manufacture should be begun here, prices would go down. The American people have, in fact, declared that they do not wish to have lower prices, that they do not desire to have the profits earned in the business and the wages paid, retained here, and that they prefer to permit foreigners to have all the benefits of a great industry which depends for its prosperity almost solely upon the American market.

THE PROHIBITION PARTY EXTINGUISHED.

Minneapolis Tribune.

ONE of the curious results of the recent tidal wave is the utter annihilation of the Prohibition party as a National organization. Such candidates as have been nominated by that party this fall were ignored during the campaign and have been overlooked in the footing up of the returns. What was once an aggressive and growing organization has disappeared from view in one short summer, and prohibition is not likely to rise again except as it is taken up here and there as a plank in a State platform where popular sentiment in favor of that method of regulating the liquor traffic may be strong enough to compel recognition. It was a National party in 1884 and cast a respectable vote for St. John for the Presidency. In 1888 it had grown amazingly, and Clinton B. Fisk was complimented with a support which promised great things for the nationalization of the party, the eventual adoption of a National prohibitory amendment and the enactment of stringent laws in accordance therewith. St. John boasted in all apparent sincerity that he would live to see a Prohibition Congress and a Prohibition President. Last Tuesday in Nebraska it was defeated by 40,000 votes. To-day all is changed. Prohibition, as a National issue, is as dead as woman's suffrage. The dense shade cast by other and greater issues has caused the once promising plant to fade and wither. The principle will survive always, but its application will be in the line of local option laws and not by National legislation.

APPREHENSIONS OF THE CHINESE.

Lord Wolseley, in The Review of Reviews.

THE Chinese are the coming nation. The Chinese will, I think, overrun the world. The Battle of Armageddon will take place between the Chinese and the English-speaking races. There will be, I assume, another war between France and Germany, and it will be about the bloodiest war or series of wars which we have seen in Europe. But, some day, a great general or law-giver, will arise in China, and the Chinese, who have been motionless for three centuries, will begin to progress. They will take to the profession of arms, and then they will hurl themselves upon the Russian Empire. Before the Chinese armies—as they possess every military virtue, are stolidly indifferent to death, and capable of inexhaustible endurance—the Russians will go down. Then the Chinese armies will march westward. They will overrun India, sweeping us into the sea. Asia will belong to them, and then, at last, English, Americans, Australians will have to rally for a last desperate conflict. So certain do I regard this that I think one fixed point of our policy should be to strain every nerve, and make every sacrifice to keep on good terms with China. China is the coming power. These people—intelligent, active, ingenious; so industrious that at twelve o'clock at night you can hear the hammer of the smith in the forge—have for the last 300 years been ruled by the simple method of having all the more active, capable, and progressive heads shorn off by their Tartar rulers; that is a simple, literal fact. The Government of China has been carried on by the method of cutting off every head of more than average intelligence, activity, and energy. You have no idea of the massacres that were carried on as a part of the regular government of the country. When Commissioner Leh was asked whether it was true that he had, in three years, beheaded 60,000

men, he replied: 'Oh, surely many more than that!' So long as this system prevails, Chinese progress is impossible. But these rude Tartars will not always be able to control the nation. Another Moses might change it, or a Mohammed, or a Napoleon. The whole system very nearly went under thirty years ago, when Gordon saved the Empire.

THE WEAK POINT IN MR. PORTER'S CENSUS.

"Bradstreet's" Journal.

AS may be remembered, Superintendent Porter, in his census bulletin giving his estimate of the total population of the United States, in criticising the census of 1870 as defective, expressed the opinion that the population of the United States in 1870 amounted to about 40,000,000, or, in other words, that the census of 1870 had omitted about 1,500,000 people. President Francis A. Walker, who was the Superintendent of the censuses of 1880 and 1890, and who perhaps may be regarded as the first statistician in the United States, has just made a contribution to statistical literature which has a special interest at this time in connection with Mr. Porter's estimate. In a paper read before the National Academy of Sciences at Boston, General Walker essayed to make a statistical determination of the amount of the admitted error in the census of 1870. This error concerned only the colored population, an accurate enumeration of which the circumstances of the time and the personnel of the enumerators rendered almost impossible. As the result of careful computation General Walker arrived at the conclusion that the omitted portion of the colored population amounted to about 500,000, instead of the 1,500,000 estimated by Mr. Porter.

It will be interesting now to make some comparisons based upon General Walker's emendation of the figures of the ninth census. His estimate adds a round 500,000 to the total population of the census of 1870, making the population for that year about 39,000,000 instead of 40,000,000, the total assumed by Mr. Porter. Following the method adopted in these columns last week, and deducting the increment by immigration from the population totals at the end of the last three decades, we find on the basis of General Walker's figures that the rate of natural increase from 1860 to 1870 was nearly 17 per cent., while that from 1870 to 1880 was over 21 per cent. But as we have seen according to Mr. Porter's calculation the rate of natural increase from 1880 to 1890, calculated in the same way, was only about 14 per cent., or less than the rate in the period of the civil war and reconstruction, when so many influences to check the progress of population were in operation, and was only two-thirds as large as the rate for the decade from 1870 to 1880. In other words, if Mr. Porter's total for 1890 is to be accepted there has been a very serious falling off in the rate of natural increase for the decade just closed.

THE STORIES OF THE INDIAN "MESSIAH."

Boston Journal.

SOME of the stories related of the mysterious personage who professes to be the new Indian Messiah are preposterous and almost blasphemous, but there can be no question that the idea has gained a wonderful ascendancy over many of the tribes of the remoter West. North of the Northern Pacific Railroad, it appears, the superstition has not made much headway, but south of that line it is said to count its adherents by the hundreds among the Cheyennes, Shoshones, Arapahoes, Kiowas, Comanches, Wichitas and lesser tribes. It was a year ago that the first intelligence of this alleged Messiah was brought to the Shoshones in Wyoming. An Arapahoe Indian who arrived there said that away up in the northern country he had seen a Christ, who told him that he came to restore the region to the condition it was in when the Indians ruled supreme there. Subsequently this same personage is said to have appeared to a large concourse of Indians of different tribes on the borders of a lake near one of the agencies in the North, and to have talked to them in all their different languages, telling them that things were going to change, that the buffalo and game were to be brought back, that they were again to possess their own country, and that the earth was to be lifted and all the whites spilled out. That evening, when this strange individual departed, he declared that he was going up to heaven. He reappeared next day and taught the assembled Indians religious songs and dances, which he enjoined upon them to repeat four days and four nights in succession on the coming of every full moon. The impression produced upon the simple-minded aborigines is said to have been tremendous, and many men and women were prostrated by excitement.

A feature of the belief that this Messiah preaches, that is calculated to give him great influence over untutored Indians, is his profession of ability to raise the dead and to bring them back to live again on the earth with their people. Some Indians pretend to have lately seen acquaintances,—living and walking about in the flesh,—who died thirty years and more ago. Of course the superstition has its numerous self-appointed prophets. One of them lately announced that a certain Indian, long before dead, would appear before his people, bringing them some of their old-time food, the flesh of the departed buffalo. At the appointed place and hour a man did appear carrying a small wooden dish of meat. A hundred persons and more partook, and yet the dish, the Indians say, remained half full. Extraordinary, even ridiculous, stories are told to the credulous tribesmen to strengthen their allegiance to the faith. One of these was to the effect that Major General Miles went with a large force of troops to arrest the Indian Messiah. This individual informed the General that it was no use to try to take him; that he could not do it. General Miles replied that he had received his orders and must obey them. He directed his soldiers to take the Messiah into custody. Thereupon, so the story runs, a flood fell upon the soldiers and drowned them, and of the entire army Gen. Miles alone escaped.

ARTHUR A HISTORICAL REALITY.

New York Tribune.

MR. Babcock [in "The Two Lost Centuries of Britain"] has been at great pains to restore something like order to the Arthurian period, and his arguments are distinguished by ingenuity and wide reading. It is inevitable that in such a discussion the phrase "it may be" should appear frequently, and equally inevitable that no matter what theory is advanced, it

must be open to attack as unhistorical. Of course all those who prefer to explain away King Arthur and his Round Table as a Sun Myth will simply laugh to scorn any attempt to unravel the obscurities of the old chroniclers. But we think the time has come when by a general consensus of good authorities the reality of Arthur may be accepted. The arguments for his existence are at all events more thinkable than those on the mythical side, and this consideration is sufficient to give seriousness to the discussion.

Mr. Babcock goes so far as to suggest that Arthur may have gone to Brittany; that in fact his absence then may have afforded the opportunity which his enemies and his traitorous allies took to undermine his empire; that the intelligence of Lancelot's disloyal amour with Guinevere probably reached him when he was abroad, and drove him home to fight his last battle. Whatever one may think of the evidence upon which this kind of superstructure is built up, it is at least nearly as good as we have for anything that happened during those lost centuries; and if the modern imagination prefers to retain the picturesqueness and nobility and heroism and chivalry of the Arthurian cycle as depicted in the old legends—only lopping away the supernatural excrescences which have grown on the original stories—there is really nothing to forbid or prevent indulgence in this prepossession. Arthur may have been in Brittany. He may have been in Scotland. He may have fought at the south and at the north. To reconcile all these allegations it is only necessary to spread his campaigns over a number of years, and in doing that we shall after all merely be reading the old Chronicle as its author meant it to be read. Also we are justified in believing that Arthur was opposed principally to Cedric the Saxon, and that he fought and beat that redoubtable chieftain in such a series of important battles that the Saxon power was paralyzed for a time, and was compelled to remain shut up within the boundaries prescribed by the conqueror. Curious it assuredly is that the passing of Arthur should be surrounded by as much mystery as his advent; and of this circumstance we must expect the myth-advocates to make the most. But there may be sufficient reasons even for this mystery.

With the death of Arthur the British power may be said to have collapsed. There was fighting afterward, but that was the beginning of the end, and the conquest of the West was the legitimate sequence of his fall. Now, during the last stages of the decline of any people it has always been a common stratagem for their leaders to conceal the death of men of great consequence, or to surround it with such mystery as may foster the suggestion of the vanished one's reappearance. Arthur, according to the legend was taken by the three Queens in the magic barge to the Vale of Avilion, or Avalon. Sir Thomas Malory, it is true, supplements this supernatural departure by a story of his burial near a forest hermitage; and it is quite possible that the exoteric and the esoteric versions are here united by the simplicity of the chronicler. A story of the same kind was told of Charlemagne, and many others; but nobody pretends that Charlemagne was a myth because myths grew up around him.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- OUTINGS AT ODD TIMES. By Charles C. Abbott, M. D. Pp. 282. \$—.
New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- CROWDED OUT OF CROFIELD; or The Boy Who Made His Way. By William O. Stoddard. Pp. 261. \$—.
New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- A HISTORY OF ENGLAND IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY. By William E. H. Lecky, Volume VIII. Pp. 650. \$2.25.
New York: D. Appleton & Co.
- ANCIENT HISTORY FOR COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS. By P. V. N. Myers. Part II. A History of Rome. Pp. 230. \$1.10.
Boston: Ginn & Co.
- SOCIOLOGY. Popular Lectures and Discussions before the Brooklyn Ethical Association. Pp. 408. \$2.00.
Boston: James H. West.
- NARRATIVE AND CRITICAL HISTORY OF AMERICA. Edited by Justin Winsor. The Later History of British, Spanish, and Portuguese America. Pp. 604. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. (Sold by Subscription. Philadelphia: W. D. Allen, 1115 Chestnut St.).
- THE DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH; or The Economic Laws by which Wages and Profits are Determined. By Rufus Cope. Pp. 364. \$2.00.
Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.
- THE CHILDREN OF THE CASTLE. By Mrs. Molesworth. Pp. 196. \$1.25.
London: Macmillan & Co.
- A PLAIN WOMAN'S STORY. By Julia McNair Wright. Pp. 320. \$1.15.
Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication.
- OUTPOURINGS OF THE SPIRIT. By Rev. W. A. McKay. Pp. 141. \$0.40.
Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication.
- RHODA ARMORER. By C. J. G. Pp. 302. \$1.00.
Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication.
- WATER-ANIMALS. By Ella Rodman Church. Pp. 352. \$1.15.
Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication.
- THE BIBLE VERIFIED. By the Rev. Andrew W. Archibald. Pp. 215. \$0.75.
Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication.
- BITS OF PASTURE. Selections from Sermons of J. R. Miller. Arranged by Mary A. Butler. Pp. 255. \$0.60.
Philadelphia: Presbyterian Board of Publication.
- IN DARKEST ENGLAND, AND THE WAY OUT. By General Booth. Pp. 285, and xxxi. \$1.50.
New York: Funk & Wagnalls.
- ESSAYS IN PHILOSOPHY. Old and New. By William Knight. Pp. 367. \$1.25.
Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.
- OVER THE TEACUPS. By Oliver Wendell Holmes. Pp. 319. \$1.50.
Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.
- THOREAU'S THOUGHTS. Selections from the Writings of Henry David Thoreau. Edited by H. G. O. Blake. Pp. 153. \$1.00.
Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.
- LYRICS FOR A LUTE. By Frank Dempster Sherman. Pp. 112. \$1.00.
Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

A WARD OF THE GOLDEN GATE. By Bret Harte. Pp. 249. \$1.25.
Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

THE ANTIQUITIES OF THE STATE OF OHIO. Full and accurate Descriptions of the Works of the Mound Builders. By Henry A. Shepherd. Pp. 139. 4to. Illustrated. \$2.00.
Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co.

EMIN PASHA, AND THE REBELLION AT THE EQUATOR. By A. J. Mounteney-Jephson. With the revision and coöperation of Henry M. Stanley, D. C. L. With Map and Numerous Illustrations. Pp. 490. \$3.75. [Sold by subscription only.]
New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. (Philadelphia: 920 Walnut St.)

ELECTRICITY IN DAILY LIFE. By Cyrus F. Brackett (and nine others). Pp. 288. \$3.00.
New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

IN SCRIPTURE LANDS. New Views of Sacred Places. By Edward L. Wilson. [150 Illustrations from Photographs by the Author.] Pp. 386. \$3.50.
New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

DRIFT.

THE unveiling of a bronze bust of Sidney Lanier, the poet, in the Library room at Macon, Georgia, took place on the 20th of last month. The bust is the gift of a distant kinsman of Lanier, Mr. Charles Lanier, of New York city. The ceremony of unveiling and presentation was duly honored. Besides eloquent addresses by Mr. Walter B. Hill for Mr. Lanier, and for the Library by President Hugh V. Washington, a poem for the occasion, by Mr. William H. Hayne, was read, which was received with much enthusiasm. Later Mr. Hayne was made "the guest of the evening," and received many congratulations. The Macon *Telegraph* says the poem "was a fitting tribute to the man it was intended to honor; and the Augusta *Evening News* says that "the day is not distant when our own people as well as the literati of the country will be proud of Wm. H. Hayne as one of the leading poets of the South and of America."

Readers of THE AMERICAN are familiar with many of Mr. Hayne's shorter pieces, especially his quatrains. The poem at the unveiling was of some length, making seven stanzas, five of them alike in form and representing a united strain of praise for Lanier from the lips of Music and Poetry.

The following is from Mrs. Dorothy Tennant Stanley's book: I asked a little girl how she would define love. Unhesitatingly she replied, "It's going errands." I asked a little boy the meaning of the word guilt. "It means telling on another boy." I asked Harry Sullivan to define a gentleman. He replied, not without some fervor, "Oh! a fellow who has a watch and chain." I suppose he read disappointment in my face, for he hastily added: "And loves Jesus." This same boy had a very hazy idea of Old Testament history. He had heard of Adam and Eve: "They stole apples and were turned out in the garden; and then they had to work for their living till the sweat poured down." A girl of eleven told me how she wished to live in the country "because then I shouldn't see a lot of people having a lot of things I can't have."

The failure of the Java coffee crop, as shown by the official report of the Dutch Government, is even more serious than had been supposed. The total yield of the Government plantations this year is put down at 95,460 piculs, whereas the average annual yield is not much less than a million. The most discouraging feature of this failure of the Java coffee crop, however, is the fact that it is chiefly due to a destructive disease of the leaf, which has already ravaged the coffee plant in Ceylon and southern India. This means that, until science shall provide some remedy, the coffee plantations of Java can not hope to regain their former prestige, and that the reduction will be felt year after year.—*Manchester Union*.

Three vessels from San Francisco are now in winter quarters at the mouth of the Mackenzie river, within 1,200 miles of the North Pole. This is said to be the first time that whaling vessels have voluntarily wintered in this location. The colony comprises nearly seventy men. It will be late next summer before they can be heard from, unless by some chance a trapper might find his way that far north by sledges and back again to a British fur trading post. Provisions, in the way of fish and game, will be procured from the Indians, who have villages close by. The vessels are the steamers *Grampus* and *Mary D. Hume*, and the schooner *Nicolene*. The San Francisco *Alta* says that "alluring stories of bowhead whales being so thick in the water that you could walk about on their backs as on broken ice" led the vessels to their present location.

The United States Government is not likely to enter the market for nickel at an early day. Though the Annapolis tests with nickel-steel armor for war-ships were on the whole very satisfactory, as compared with results with all steel and compound plates, the Ordnance Bureau is not entirely convinced that the immediate adoption of the alloyed plate as the standard is advisable. The plate tested was of foreign manufacture, and it may be that if even an adequate supply of nickel is obtained the domestic manufacturers cannot succeed in making an alloyed plate that will equal in resisting power the plate tried at Annapolis.—*Age of Steel*.

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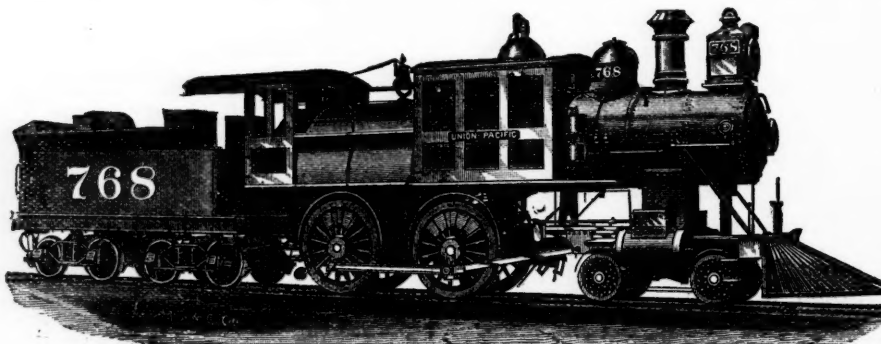
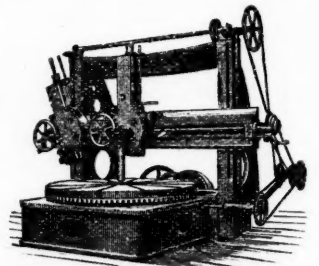
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